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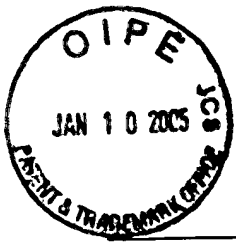
<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	<b>Application Number</b>	10/657953
	<b>Filing Date</b>	09/09/2003
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Ould-Brahim
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	2661
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b> 120-303

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<b>Firm or Individual name</b>	Lindsay G. McGuinness, Reg. No. 38,549 Steubing McGuinness & Manaras LLP
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ould-Brahim

Serial No.: 10/657953

Filed: 09/09/2003

Title: Generalized Layer-2 VPNs

Attorney Docket No.: 120-303

Group Art Unit: 2661

Examiner: Not known

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

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Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted before mailing date of first office action on the merits. No fee is required.

— Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay McGuinness  
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/657953
Filing Date	9/9/2003
First Named Inventor	Ould-Brahim
Art Unit	2661
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	120-303

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		PCT/CA03/01075 - PCT International Search Report	
		Ould-Brahim, "Optical VPNs"; XP002252507, Retrieved from the Internet: <a href="http://www.nortelnetworks.com/products/library/collateral/mpis2001/vpn_tutorial">http://www.nortelnetworks.com/products/library/collateral/mpis2001/vpn_tutorial</a> ; (retrieved on 2003-08-25, the whole document)	
		Ould-Brahim, "BGP/GMPLS Optical/TDM VPNs", XP002252506, Retrieved from the Internet, <a href="http://www.watersprings.or/pub/id/draft-ouldbrahim-bgggmpls-ovpn-02.bt">http://www.watersprings.or/pub/id/draft-ouldbrahim-bgggmpls-ovpn-02.bt</a> ; retrieved on 2003-08-25, page 2, paragraph 1 - page 12, paragraph 8	
		Yong Xue et al, Carrier Optical Services Requirements" XP002252508, retrieved from the Internet: <a href="http://www.potaroo.net/ietf/xid-ids/draft-ietf-ipo-carrier-requirements-02.txt">http://www.potaroo.net/ietf/xid-ids/draft-ietf-ipo-carrier-requirements-02.txt</a> , retrieved on 2003-08-25, page 10, paragraph 4.2-page 29, paragraph 9.	
		Ould-Brahim et al, "Service requirements for optical VPNs" 51th IETF, London, August 2001, Online August 2001 (2001-08), page 1-7 XP002260632, retrieved from the Internet <a href="http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01aug/slides/ppvpn-9.pdf">http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01aug/slides/ppvpn-9.pdf</a> , retrieved on 2003-11-06, the whole document	
		Yong Xue et al, "Carrier optical services requirements" Internet Draft, online 19 May 2001 (2001-05-19), pages 1-46, XP002260633, retrieved from the Internet, <a href="http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01aug/i-D/draft-ietf-ipo-carrier-requirements-00.txt">http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01aug/i-D/draft-ietf-ipo-carrier-requirements-00.txt</a> , retrieved on 2003-11-06; page 5, paragraph 3.2- pages 25, paragraph 8.3, page 37, paragraph 9.3.1 - page 44, paragraph 11.2	
		Rosen et al, "BGP/MPLS VPNs-RFC2547bis" XP002242692, retrieved from the Internet, <a href="http://www.ietf.org">www.ietf.org</a> , retrieved on 2003-05-27, the whole document	
		Ould-Brahim, "bgp based auto-discovery mechanism for optical vpns" 50 <sup>th</sup> IETF, Minneapolis, March 2001, Online May 2001 (2001-05), pages 1-10, XP002260634, retrieved from the Internet, <a href="http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01mar/slides/ppvpn-10.pdf">http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01mar/slides/ppvpn-10.pdf</a> , retrieved on 2001-11-06, the whole document	
		Chandraseker, "hierarchical vpn over mpls transport" Internet draft, online July 2001 (2001-07) pages 109, XP002260635, retrieved from the Internet, <a href="http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01aug/i-D/draft-ietf-ppvpn-hiervpn-corevpn-00.bt">http://www.ietf.org/proceedings/01aug/i-D/draft-ietf-ppvpn-hiervpn-corevpn-00.bt</a> , retrieved on 2003-11-06, the whole document	

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